



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

January 11, 2023

The Honorable
Jim Banks
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Banks:

Thank you for your October 24, 2022 letter to Secretary Blinken regarding the alleged, so-called “Fuzhou overseas police service station” in New York City. The Department of State has carefully reviewed the Safeguard Defenders reports about “overseas police service stations” of the People’s Republic of China (PRC), which allege the presence of stations around the world, including in the United States.

The Department is concerned about these allegations. The notion that the PRC would attempt to set up offices effectively functioning as “police service stations” in the United States is a matter that affects U.S. sovereignty and would circumvent standard judicial and law enforcement cooperation processes. The Department is considering a range of policy responses in coordination with other departments and agencies.

It is important to note that the underlying issues related to these reports are not new, but a part of broader PRC transnational repression efforts, where they reach outside their borders to harass, surveil, and threaten individuals, whom the PRC deems a threat, including in the United States. The Department firmly opposes these efforts. Earlier this year, the Department imposed visa restrictions on PRC officials for their involvement in repressive acts against individuals inside and outside the PRC’s borders.

To be clear, the Department did not invite nor approve the Fuzhou police to establish a presence in New York City. The United Front Work Department-related visa restrictions imposed by the previous administration remain in place. The Department has not issued visas to PRC nationals for the purposes of performing government duties at the alleged overseas service station in New York City.

We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Naz Durakoglu". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "N" and "D".

Naz Durakoglu
Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Legislative Affairs